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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Ritsuko Iwasaki

Serial No.: 09/496,421

Filed: February 2, 2000

Group Art Unit: 2815

Examiner: Lee, E.

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING AN IMPROVED LAYOUT PATT

PAIR TRANSISTORS

Honorable Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

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Prior to further examination on the merits and calculation of the filing fee and concurrently with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed herewith, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

### **IN THE CLAIMS**:

Please cancel claims 6-9 without prejudice or disclaimer.

#### Please add the following new claims.

-- 26. A semiconductor device including first and second transistors formed on a semiconductor chip, each having a terminal commonly connected to a node, said device comprising:

a main line of a first gate electrode layer of said first transistor extending in a first direction;

two branches branching substantially perpendicularly from said main line of said first gate electrode layer, said two branches extending in a second direction;

a first diffusion layer of said first transistor coupled to a first contact hole;

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Examiner: Lee, E.

SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING AN IMPROVED LAYOUT PATTERN OF

PAIR TRANSISTORS

Honorable Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

#### **EXCESS CLAIM FEE PAYMENT LETTER**

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

	AFTER AMENDMENT		PREV. PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	FEE DUE	
Total Claims Indep. Claims	22 5		22 4	= 0 = 1	x \$18.00 x \$84.00	\$ \$	00.00 84.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT							84.00

A check in the amount of \$84.00 is herewith enclosed to cover the excess claim fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully Submitted

Sean M. McGinn Reg. No. 34,386

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